

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

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SUBJECT 1. Lead Mines in the Rudozem Area
2. Mining of Mica

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Lead Mines in the Rudozem Area

1. The largest Bulgarian lead mines, which yield ore with a 46-58 percent lead content, are located approximately three kilometers southeast of Ribnitsa (N4127, E2452). The mines employ 5200 miners, in three shifts. A narrow gauge railroad, which connects Ribnitsa with Rudozem (N4129, E2452), was completed in August 1955.
2. Another mine [redacted] is situated near Chepintsi (N4125, E2454). It employs 600 miners.
3. The lead ore is shipped to Rudozem, from whence it is sent principally to various processing plants in Kurdzhali, and to a lesser extent, to Madan.
4. Miners earn from 45 to 80 leva daily, and undergo monthly medical examinations.

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Mining of Mica

5. Mica is mined near Libyakhovo (N4128, E2348), which is located approximately 15 kilometers south of Gotse Delchev, in the Rhodope Mountain area of southern Bulgaria.
6. This type of mica, which is thin and transparent, is found in layers and is used mainly in the production of wireless sets. It is transported from the mines directly to a storage center in Velingrad (N4201, E2400), approximately 35 kilometers southwest of Pazardzhik. From Velingrad, the mica is distributed to the various enterprises in Sofia and Plovdiv.

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